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HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

OF

St. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.

Paul, Saint & Apostle, Cathedral Church of.

CONTAINING

1. The History of the Old Cathedral from its first Foundation, in which many curious Particulars, concerning its ancient Customs, Privileges, and Solemnities are recited.
2. An Account of the Manner of Proceeding in taking down the vast Ruins of the Old Cathedral, with the Discoveries and Observations made upon the Spot by Sir *Christopher Wren*.
3. A full Description of the founding, building, ornamenting, and finishing the present Structure, with Observations on its Beauties and Defects.
4. A full View of every Thing curious in it shewn to Strangers.
5. A Comparison of its Dimensions with those of the Old Church; and of the Dimensions of both with those of St. *Peter*'s at *Rome*.

TO WHICH ARE ADDED,

A DESCRIPTION of the MONUMENT,

Some CONJECTURES concerning

LONDON-STONE and other *Roman* RELICKS,

And a REVIEW of the

Antient WALL and GATES about the CITY.

LONDON:

Printed for J. NEWBERY, at the *Bible and Sun* in *St. Paul's Church-yard*. 1753. Price Sixpence.

THE
PREFACE.

AS *St.* Paul's Cathedral *was intended to be an Honour to the Nation, and an Ornament to the City of* London, *an Attempt to preſerve the Memory of its Erection, may hope to be favourably received. Nor can it be thought of leſs Importance to have a Proſpect ſet before us of the Viſſicitude of all earthly Monuments of Grandeur, in the Riſe, Increaſe, flouriſhing Eſtate, gradual Decay, and final Diſſolution of the ancient Structure, whoſe ruinous Condition, after more than a thouſand Years Exiſtence, made Way for the preſent moſt beautiful Fabric to ſucceed.*

In the Proſecution of this Deſign we muſt acknowledge ourſelves chiefly indebted to the Labours of two very eminent Men, namely, Sir William Dugdale, *and Sir* Chriſtopher Wren; *the former took Pains, as himſelf has declared, to give a perfect Repreſentation of the* OLD CATHEDRAL, *that the Remembrance of ſo glorious a Structure might not wholly be buried in Oblivion; and the* latter *has left behind him ſome Materials, not elſewhere to be met with, of the Ornaments and other Decorations with which he intended to have embelliſhed the* NEW. *If in ſo ſmall a Work as this many Things be omitted, with which the Reader would gladly be acquainted, we muſt refer him to* Dugdale's Hiſtory of St. Paul's, *and to* Wren's Parentalia.

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As to the other Parts of this little Book, reſpecting the MONUMENT, LONDON-STONE, *and other* ANTIQUE-REMAINS *therein treated of, Nothing in particular need to be premiſed. What is ſaid of the* MONUMENT, *indeed, is founded upon inconteſtable Facts; but as to* LONDON-STONE, *the* WALLS *and* GATES *of* LONDON, *and other Matters grounded upon Conjecture, tho' the Reader will here find as much Satisfaction as in all the other Books that mention them; yet I queſtion if what is advanced will command his Belief. Something will occur to his own Reaſon that will ſtaggar his Faith, and to the free Exerciſe of that Reaſon I commend him.*

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HISTORICAL DESCRIPTION

OF

St. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL,

AND ITS

ORNAMENTS.

Of the old CATHEDRAL *of* St. PAUL.

IN our Hiſtory of *Weſtminſter-Abbey*, we have already obſerved, that till the Beginning of the 6th Century the *Pagan* Worſhip generally prevailed in *Britain*; and it is beyond all Doubt that the Inhabitants of *London* continued to pay divine Honours to *Diana*, in a Temple dedicated to the Service of that Goddeſs, till the Reign of *Ethelbert*, King of *Kent*.

This Prince being converted to Chriſtianity by the Preaching of *Auguſtine*, cauſed the *Pagan* Temples within his Juriſdiction to be conſecrated to a purer Worſhip, eſtabliſhed the Order of Biſhops, and conſtituted *Auguſtine* their Metropolitan, who about the Year 604, being ſollicited thereto by *Sebert*

King of *Eſſex*, advanced *Mellitus* to the Biſhoprick of *London*, and converted the Temple of *Diana* into a Cathedral, by deſtroying the Idols, building an Altar, furniſhing it with Relicks, and ſprinkling it with Holy Water.

That this was the Origin of the old Structure of St. *Paul*'s appears from unqueſtionable Authorities: but in the then unſettled State of *Chriſtianity* the Kingdom of *Eſſex*, upon the Death of *Sebert*, relapſing into *Paganiſm*, this newly conſecrated Cathedral was again defiled, its Biſhop baniſhed, the Idols reſtored, and that Adoration offered to falſe Gods which was only due to the Supreme Being: It did not, however, remain long in this deprav'd State; the *Chriſtian* Religion every where prevailed, and bore down all Oppoſition; inſomuch that in 675 we find *Erkinwald*, the fourth Biſhop of *London*, from *Mellitus*, laviſhing an immenſe Treaſure in repairing and beautifying the ancient Edifice, augmenting its Revenues, and procuring ſuch Privileges from the Pope and the *Saxon* Princes then reigning for its future Security, as ſhould effectually diſappoint the Attempts of its Enemies: As the Labours of this devout Biſhop were crowned with Succeſs; ſo, in the Infancy of *Chriſtianity* this Kind of Piety was never ſuffered to paſs unrewarded; his Soul was exalted to Heaven, and his Body tranſlated to a glorious Shrine above the high Altar in the Eaſt Part of this Church, and remained there the Admiration of ſucceeding Ages, till the fatal Deſtruction of the whole Fabric extinguiſhed its Luſtre.

During the *Saxon* Heptarchy it ſeems to have flouriſhed exceedingly; *Kenrad* King of *Mercia* declared it as free in all its Rights, as he himſelf deſired to be at the Day of Judgment; *Athelſtan* endowed it with fifteen Lordſhips; *Edgar* with two,

and

and *Egleſtede*, his Wife, with two more; all which were confirmed by the Charters of *Ethelred* and *Canutus*, which threaten the Violaters with ſolemn Curſes.

Edward the Confeſſor was the next Benefactor to this Church; but the *Norman* Invaſion, which ſoon ſucceeded, for a while eclipſed its Glory: Some of its Revenues were at firſt ſeized upon by the Conqueror, who, in the Fury of War, treated Clergy and Laity with equal Rigour: But, when the Thoughts of eſtabliſhing himſelf on the Throne, had taken Poſſeſſion of his Mind; and Rapine and Plunder had given Way to more ſerious Conſiderations, that wiſe Prince began the Reformation of Abuſes, by cauſing full Reſtitution to be made to the Church, and by confirming all its Rights, Privileges, and Immunities, in the ampleſt Manner, with a pious Benediction upon thoſe who ſhould augment its Poſſeſſions, and ſolemn Imprecations againſt ſuch as ſhould violate any of the Charters made in its Favour.

In this Reign, however, a dreadful Fire conſumed the ancient Fabric, of which we have been ſpeaking, and gave Riſe to a more magnificent Building than had ever been applied to the Purpoſes of Devotion in any Part of *England* before: This great Work was undertaken by *Maurice* then Biſhop of *London*, who obtained a Grant of ſuch Meterials for carrying it into Execution as ſhould be found uſeful, out of the Ruins of the great *Palatine Tower*, ſituate near the River *Fleet*, on the very Spot where *Robert Kilwardy*, Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*, afterwards erected that Houſe of Dominicans, ſo well known by the Name of *Black Friers*. But the Foundations which this good Biſhop had laid were ſo vaſt, that tho' he lived twenty Years, and proſecuted the Work with uncommon

uncommon Earneſtneſs, yet he left the Completion of what he had ſo piouſly begun to ſucceeding Generations.

Richard de Beaumeis, on the Death of *Maurice*, being promoted to the Biſhoprick of *London*, was no leſs zealous for the Accompliſhment of this great Work, than his Predeceſſor; and applied the whole Revenue of his See, towards its Advancement; but tho' he likewiſe laboured at it for more than twenty Years, yet the Maſonry went on ſo ſlow, that what he effected was hardly to be perceived; indeed he chiefly laid out his Money in the Purchaſe of Houſes and Lands to enlarge its Boundaries, give full Scope to the Deſign, and Space for every Conveniency; leaving the Care of raiſing and adorning the Edifice to Perſons of ſuperior Knowledge in Architecture, and who were equally concerned with himſelf in the Succeſs of the Deſign. From the Silence of the Records of the Church, it ſhould ſeem, that the further Proſecution of this Work, after the Death of *Beaumeis*, was entruſted in Lay Hands; for, by whom, at what Time, or in what Manner it was finiſhed, is no where mentioned. Indeed *William Rufus*, who ſucceeded the Conqueror, is ſaid to have exempted all Ships entering the River *Fleet* with Stone or other Materials for the new Cathedral, from Toll and Cuſtom; and it is not improbable, that he might take ſo noble a Structure under his own particular Direction.

Richard, Treaſurer to *Henry* II. and afterwards made Biſhop of *London*, was the next upon Record who expended a vaſt Sum in the Reparation of this Church, and in building Houſes for the reſidentiary Canons, who daily attended the Celebration of divine Worſhip.

But the moſt conſiderable Change it underwent till the total Deſtruction of it by the Fire of *London*, was in the Reign of *Henry* III. when *Roger*, ſurnamed *Niger*, the then Biſhop of *London*, in a Manner rebuilt it, beginning with the Steeple, which was finiſhed in 1221, and proceeding with the Choir in the ſame Order of Architecture in which it appeared at the Fire of *London*, he perfected the whole in 1240, as appears by a new Dedication of that Cathedral in that very Year, at which were preſent *Eadmund*, Archbiſhop of *Canterbury*, *Niger*, and ſix other Prelates, aſſiſted by *Otto* the Pope's Legate, K. *Henry* III. and a vaſt Concourſe of People.

Having now ſettled with a Degree of Certainty beyond what is common to ancient Buildings, the Æra of the old Structure of St. *Paul*'s, we ſhall juſt touch upon what is moſt remarkable reſpecting it, and then proceed to a more prrticular Deſcription of the new Cathedral.

And firſt of its Dimenſions; The Length of the old Church was 690 Feet; the Breadth 130; the Height of the Roof of the Weſt Part from the Floor 102 Feet; of the Eaſt Part 88 Feet; the Body of the Church 150 Feet; the Height of the Tower Steeple from the Level of the Ground 240 Feet; of the Spire of Wood covered with Lead, above the Tower, 274 Feet; the Ball or Pummel of the Spire 6 Feet Diameter; and the Croſs a-top 15 Feet; and yet as my Author obſerves, the whole Height of the Tower, Spire, Pummel, and Croſs exceeded not 520 Feet. The Space of Ground whereon this fine Fabric ſtood extended to three Acres and a half, one Rood and a half, and ſix Perches.

We ſhall next ſpeak of its Ornaments, in which it exceeded every other Church in the Kingdom:

The Picture of St. *Paul*, richly Painted, and placed in a Tabernacle of Wood on the right Hand of the high Altar, was a maſterly Performance, and coſt in 1398, 12 *l.* 6 *s.* painting: The high Altar ſtood between two Columns variouſly adorned with precious Stones, and ſurrounded with Images, moſt beautifully wrought, and covered with a Canopy of Wood, curiouſly painted with the various Portraits of Saints and Angels; all which in 1309 coſt 22 Marks: The Shrine of St. *Erkenwald*, of whoſe Canonization we have already ſpoken, ſtood on the Eaſt Side of the Wall above the high Altar, and was adorned with Gold, Silver, and precious Stones, but not being thought ſufficiently ſtriking, in 1339, three Gold-Smiths of *London*, were retained by the Dean and Chapter to work upon it a whole Year, one at the Rate of 8 *s.* by the Week, the other two at 5 *s.* each; at the End of which Term its Luſtre was ſo great, that the Princes of the Earth, the Nobles of the Land, Ambaſſadors and Foreigners of Rank, flockt from all Parts to viſit it, and to offer their Oblations before it; among theſe Oblations we find all the Rings and Jewels of what Kind ſoever of *Walter de Thorp*, and the beſt Sapphire Stone of *Richard de Preſton*; the laſt was applyed to the curing Infirmities of the Eyes, and Proclamation was made by the expreſs Will of the Donor of its Virtues: Againſt a Pillar in the Body of the Church ſtood the glorious Image of the *Bleſſed Virgin*, before which that a Lamp might be kept continually burning, and an Anthem ſung every Day, *John Burnet*, Biſhop of *Bath* and *Wells*, bequeathed a handſome Eſtate: In the Center ſtood a large Croſs, and towards the North Door a Crucifix, at which Offerings were made, which greatly encreaſed the Revenue of the Dean

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and Canons: The fine Dial belonging to the great Clock is the laſt Piece of Ornament I ſhall take Notice of belonging to this Church, which as it was viſible to all that paſſed by, Care was taken that it ſhould appear with ſuch Splendor as to excite Admiration; to this Purpoſe the Image of an Angel was repreſented as pointing to the Hour both of the Day and Night, the gilding and adorning of which coſt in thoſe Days 6 *l.*

We come in the laſt Place to ſpeak of the Celebration of *Divine Service*, the *Obſequies* and *Anniverſaries*, particularly belonging to this Cathedral: As to the Celebration of *Divine Service*, *Richard Clifford*, Biſhop of *London*, in 1414, with the Conſent of the then Dean and Chapter, ordained, that from thence forward it ſhould be altered from the old Form, and made conformable to that of the Church of *Saliſbury* and other Cathedrals within this Kingdom; but the Performance of *Obſequies* for great Perſons deceaſed ſeems ſtill to have been retained as a peculiar Privilege of this Cathedral from whence great Profit aroſe. Sir *William Dugdale* ſays, "that the "State and Order obſerved on theſe Solemn Oc"caſions, was little inferior to that uſed at the Fu"nerals of thoſe great Perſonages; the Church "and Choir being hung with Black, and Eſcut"cheons of their Arms; their Herſes ſet up in "wonderful Magnificence, adorned with rich "Banner-rolls, Pencils, *&c.* and environed with "Barriers; having Chief-mourners and Aſſiſt"ants, accompanied with divers Biſhops and Ab"bots in their proper Habits; ſo likewiſe with "Ambaſſadors of foreign Princes, many of our "Nobility, Knights of the Garter, Lord Mayor, "and the ſeveral Companies of *London*," who all attended with great Devotion at thoſe Ceremonies.

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The ſame Author adds a Liſt of Emperors, Empreſſes, and Kings, who had their Obſequies performed in this Cathedral: As to *Anniverſaries*, thoſe of the *Converſion* and *Commemoration* of St. *Paul*, the *Conſecration of the Church*, and the *Canonization* of St. *Erkenwald* were reckoned among the higheſt Feſtivals; one very ſingular Grant for the Solemnization of the firſt of theſe Anniverſaries is from Sir *William le Baud*, Knt. 3 *Edward* I. of a good fat Doe yearly on the Day of the *Converſion* of St. *Paul*, and of a good fat Buck upon the Day of *Commemoration*; which Doe and Buck till the Reign of Queen *Elizabeth*, was received with great Formality at the Steps of the Choir, by the Conons, cloathed in their ſacred Veſtments, with Garlands of Flowers on their Heads; *Cambden*, who was an Eye Witneſs of this Solemnity, tells us, that the Horns of the Buck were carried on a Spear in Proceſſion round the Inſide of the Church with a great Noiſe of Horn Blowers, *&c.* and then the Buck being offered at the high Altar, a Shilling was ordered by the Dean and Chapter for the Entertainment of the Servants who brought it, and the Ceremony concluded; that this Anniverſary was of great Antiquity as well as high Renown appears from a ſpecial Record, importing, "that *Henry* III. by his Precept dated at *Dover*, "*Jan.* 17, 1244, and directed to *William de Ha-*"*verhall*, then Lord Treaſurer, commanding him "to feed 15,000 poor People in St. *Paul's-Church-*"*Yard*, upon the *Feaſt of Converſion*, and to pro-"vied 1500 Tapers to illuminate the Church on "that Occaſion, the Charge of which to be allow-"ed out of the Profits of the Biſhoprick of *Lon-*"*don*, then in the King's Hands by the Death of "*Roger Niger*," of whom Mention has already been made. The Anniverſaries of the *Conſecration*

and

and *Canonization* were celebrated at the publick Expence. Other Anniverſaries there were of a private Nature, provided for by particular Grants, as that of Sir *John Poultney*, Knt. a Man famous in thoſe Days for Wealth and Wiſdom, having been four times Lord Mayor of *London*, who aſſigned yearly Salaries to all who bore Office about the Church, together with an Allowance of 6*s*. 8*d*. to the Lord Mayor, 5*s*. to the Recorder; 6*s*. 8*d*. to the two Sheriffs; 3*s*. 4*d*. to the common Cryer; 6*s*. 8*d*. to the Lord-Mayor's Serjeants, and 6*s*. 8*d*. to the Maſter of the College of St. *Lawrence Poultney*, provided they were preſent at the Celebration of his *Anniverſary*; but if any were abſent, their Share to be diſtributed to the Poor. Many more of theſe Anniverſaries were kept, but thoſe mentioned may ſuffice.

The *Chauntries* were ſtill more numerous, and were founded by men of Condition, who left certain Legacies for the Maintenance of one or two Prieſts to celebrate divine Service daily, for the Health of their Souls, the Souls of their deareſt Friends and Relations, and of all the faithful Deceaſed; but theſe were increaſed to ſuch a Degree in a ſhort Time, and the Service ſo painful, and withal the Endowments ſo ſlender, that Biſhop *Braybroke*, ſo early as the Reign of *Richard* II. cauſed 44 of them to be united into one Solemn Service. *Michael de Newburgh*, Biſhop of *London*, in 1361 by his Teſtament directed, that a Chaplain ſhould be appointed by his Succeſſors to celebrate divine Service for the Health of his Soul before the high Alter, and left the Rent of certain Houſes for his ſupport; he alſo deſired by his Will that his Body might be buried at the Entrance into this Cathedral, without the great Weſt Door, that twenty poor Men, cloathed in Gowns of Black,

Black, White, or Grey Cloth, every one holding a Waxen Torch of, at leaſt, ſix Pounds Weight, ſhould attend his Hearſe; and that 20 *l.* ſhould be laid out on a Stone to cover his Grave, whereon ſhould be an Inſcription putting Paſſengers in Mind to pray. Humble as this Funeral may ſeem when compared with the Pomp of ſuch Ceremonies in that Age, yet there appears at firſt View a ſingular Kind of Vanity in it, not eaſily to be reconciled with the Simplicity of the Goſpel; for he eſpecially deſired "that the Ceremony of his Funeral "might be performed before his Face was tainted "with any Corruption, ſo that it might be expoſ-"ed to View, with the Arms and Enſigns of his "Biſhoprick." But this was undoubtedly intended to correct that Extravagancy of Funeral Pomp which then generally prevailed, by ſetting an Example, in which Oeconomy, Charity and Decorum might appear to be united: His chief Expence was in cloathing the Poor; and yet by expoſing his Corps with the Enſigns of his Dignity, that Diſtinction was preſerved which was due to his Rank, and the Charge of thoſe Waxen Images which were generally placed upon the Herſes of the Great, adorned in the moſt coſtly Manner, was ſaved for nobler Purpoſes. He built the Houſe of *Carthuſians*, commonly called the *Charter-Houſe*, now *Sutton's Hoſpital*, at the Expence of 2000 *l.* a vaſt Sum in thoſe Days, and liberally endowed it; he alſo bequeathed a Thouſand Marks, to be put into a Cheſt in St. *Paul's* Church, one Key to be kept by the Dean, another by the eldeſt Canon Reſidentiary, and a third by the Warden, out of which any poor Layman might, for a ſufficient Pledge, borrow 10 *l.* for a Year without Intereſt, the Dean and principal Canons 20 *l.* or 40 Marks; the Biſhop 40 *l.* or near 50 *l.* other Noblemen

or

or Citizens 20 *l.* but if at the Year's End the Pledge was not redeemed, the Preacher at St. *Paul*'s Croſs was to give Notice, that in 14 Days, if the Money ſo borrowed was not paid in, the Pledge would be ſold, which was accordingly done, and the Overplus, if any, reſtored to the Owner, or his Executors; but in Caſe he had none, the Overplus was returned to the Cheſt for the Health of the Soul of the Deceaſed, or what other Uſe the Biſhop and Dean with the Warden of the Church thought proper to direct.

Beſides the old Cathedral of St. *Paul*, there was beneath it a Pariſh Church, called St. *Faith*'s, in which ſeveral Perſons of Note were formerly interred; but of its Antiquity no Records remain, neither is it remembered when Divine Worſhip was performed in it, other than by Chauntry Prieſts for the Souls of their departed Benefactors. After the Fire of *London*, therefore, when the Reſolution was taken to build a new Cathedral, it was found abſolutely neceſſary totally to demoliſh and to raze to the Ground all the Relicks of the old Building, St. *Faith*'s not excepted, and in the ſame Place but upon new Foundations, to erect the New. From this Period the Pariſh of St. *Faith* became united with that of St. *Auſtin*, but the Inhabitants, as I am informed, are now conteſting their Right of Burial in the old Spot, to which Privilege their Predeceſſors had an undoubted Claim.

The old Chapter-Houſe, ſituate on the South of St. *Paul*'s, was likewiſe a Building of great Note; as was the old Croſs, which ſtood in the Middle of the Church Yard on the North Side, where it was antiently the Cuſtom to preach to the People. Facing this Croſs ſtood the Charnel, in which the Bones of the Dead were decently piled together, a Thouſand Loads whereof were remov-

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ed to *Finsbury-Fields*, in the Reign of *Edward* VI. and there laid in a mooriſh Place with ſo much Earth to cover them as raiſed the Ground for three Windmills to ſtand upon. The Charnel itſelf, together with a Chapel called *Sheryngton's Chapel*, the *Library*, and other *Chapels* adjoining, were at the ſame Time pulled down, and their Materials by Order of *Edward* Duke of *Somerſet* converted to the Building of *Somerſet-Houſe*, in the *Strand*. About this Time likewiſe was demoliſhed that ancient Chapel founded by *Gilbert Becket*, Portreeve of *London*, in the Reign of K. *Stephen*, and ſituate in a Place at that Time known by the Name of *Pardon-church-haugh*, to the Eaſt of the Biſhop's Palace, in which Chapel were interred ſundry Perſons, whoſe Monuments, as *Stow* obſerves, for Curious Workmanſhip, ſurpaſſed thoſe in the Cathedral itſelf; and on the Walls of it, was richly pourtray'd the *Dance of Death*, in Imitation of a Painting in the Cloyſter of St. *Innocent's* Church at *Paris*, with *Engliſh* Verſes tranſlated out of the *French* by *John Lydgate*, a famous old Poet, by way of Explanation.—It remains only to ſpeak of one Building more, belonging to this ancient Cathedral, and that was, the *Clochier*, or *Bell-Tower*, which ſtood at the Eaſt End of the Church Yard, cloſe to the Schoolmaſter's Houſe, in which were four great Bells, called *Jeſus Bells*, becauſe they actually belonged to *Jeſus* Chapel in St. *Faith's* Church; but theſe, together with the fine Image of St. *Paul* on the Top of the Spire, being won by Sir *Miles Partridge*, Knt. of *Henry* VIII at one Caſt of the Dice, were by that Gentleman taken down and ſold. It is remarked by *Dugdale*, by way of Judgment for this Sacrilege that Sir *Miles* in the ſucceeding Reign, ſuffered Death on *Tower-Hill*, for Matters relating to the Duke of *Somerſet*.

Having

Having now taken a tranſient Survey of this magnificent Structure in its flouriſhing State, with all its Appendages, we ſhall in like Manner view its Decline, and trace it to its final Diſſolution. The firſt remarkable Misfortune that befel it was in 1444, when the Timber-work of the Steeple was ſet on Fire by Lightening, and did ſuch Damage, that till 1462, it was not ſufficiently repaired; but then its Beauty was encreaſed by a Weather-Cock, made of Copper and gilt, being ſet upon a handſome Shaft and gilt Ball, which had a fine Effect. About 100 Years after this Accident, another of the ſame Kind happened to it, generally attributed to the ſame Cauſe, but much more fatal in its Conſequence, conſuming not only the fine Spire, but ſpreading to the upper Roof of the Church and Iſles, and burning all the Rafters, and what elſe was combuſtible, for the Space of four Hours: This Fire, as an old Plumber at his Death confeſſed, was occaſioned thro' his Negligence only, in leaving careleſly a Pan of Coals and other Fuel in the Steeple, when he went to Dinner, which taking Hold of the dry Timber in the Spire, before his Return, was grown ſo dangerous, as not to be in his Power to quench it; and therefore to no Purpoſe (as he thought) to contradict the common Report of its being again ſet on Fire by Lightning. This dreadful Calamity was followed by a general Contribution among the Clergy, Nobility, great Officers of State, the City of *London*, and the Queen herſelf, who gave a thouſand Marks in Gold, towards its ſpeedy Repair, with a Warrant for a Thouſand Loads of Timber to be cut in any of her Woods wherever it ſhould be moſt convenient; the Zeal ſhewn on this Occaſion by Perſons of all Ranks had ſo good an Effect, that in five Years Time the Timber Roofs (the two largeſt

whereof were framed in *Yorkſhire* and brought by Sea) were entirely finiſhed, and covered with Lead; but ſome Difference in Opinion ariſing about the Model of the Steeple, that Part of the Work was left unattempted, and indeed was never after rebuilt; for upon raiſing the Roofs, as has been ſaid, the Walls, by the coroding Quality of the Coal Smoak, were found to be ſo much decay'd, that a general Repair of the whole Building was judged abſolutely neceſſary; and tho' this was delay'd from time to time, by Reaſon, no doubt, of the vaſt Expence attending it, yet by the indefatigable Appplication of *Henry Farley*, a private Gentleman, K. *James* I. was at length, after more than eight Years earneſt Sollicitation, prevailed upon to interpoſe for the Prevention of its approaching Ruin. In order to this, his Majeſty, conſidering of what Importance Appearances are in the Promotion of Public Zeal, cauſed it to be rumoured abroad, that on *Sunday March* 26, 1620, he would be preſent at Divine Service at St. *Paul*'s Cathedral; and accordingly when the Day came he repaired thither on Horſeback in all the pomp of Royalty, attended by the principal Nobility and great Officers of his Court, and was met by the Lord Mayor (Sir *William Cokain*) Aldermen, and Livery, in their Formalities, who upon his Majeſty's alighting at the great Weſt Door, joined in the Proceſſion. When his Majeſty entered the Church, he kneeled near the brazen Pillar, and devoutly pray'd for Succeſs; and then was received under a Canopy, ſupported by the Dean and Reſidentiaries, the reſt of the Prebends and Dignitaries, with the whole Company of ſinging Men advancing before him to the Choir, which was richly adorned with Hangings for his Reception. Here he heard an Anthem, and then proceed-

proceeded to the Croſs, where the Biſhop, (Dr. *King*) preached a Sermon ſuitable to the Occaſion from a Text given him by his Majeſty in the *Pſalms*, Chap. cii. Ver. 13, 14; which Sermon was afterwards circulated thro' the whole Kingdom with conſiderable Effect. After Divine Service was ended his Majeſty was ſplendidly entertained with his whole Court, at the Biſhop's Palace, where much Conſultation was held concerning the Buſineſs in Hand; and at Length it was agreed to iſſue a Commiſſion under the great Seal, directed to the principal Perſonages in the Kingdom, empowering them, or any ſix of them, to enquire into the true State of the Decays and the Cauſe thereof, and to conſider of the neceſſary Repairs and the Means of raiſing Money for carrying them into Execution: But tho' Commiſſioners met to proſecute this Enquiry, yet the Ruin of the Biſhop and principal Dignitaries of the Cathedral being chiefly aimed at; the whole Matter came at laſt to nothing; for it plainly appearing that the ruinous Condition into which this ancient Fabric was fallen, could in no Senſe be imputed to thoſe with whom the Care of it was entruſted, who had annually expended more upon it than was allotted them for that Purpoſe, the Zeal of the moſt active amongſt them began to abate, and ſo the Affair, by the Indifference of ſome, and the Diſappointment of others, was ſuffered to drop, tho' a good Proportion of Stone had been provided by the Vigilance of the then Biſhop and his Succeſſor, which was afterwards borrowed by the Duke of *Buckingham*, and apply'd to the Building the Water-Gate at *York-Houſe*; and thus ended the firſt Attempt for the effectual Reparation of this antient Structure.

But in the ſucceeding Reign another Commiſſion was obtained for the ſame Purpoſe by the

powerful Influence of *Laud*, which was attended with better Succeſs; inſomuch, that on the 16th of *June*, 1632, an Order was ſigned to *Inigo Jones*, his Majeſty's Surveyor General, with Directions to begin the Repairs at the South East End, and to bring 'em along by the South to the Weſt End, upwards of 5416 *l.* being already collected for that Purpoſe.

This able Architect proſecuted the Work with uncommon Diligence, ſo that in nine Years, except the Steeple, which was intended to be wholly taken down, and, by ſtronger Pillars to ſupport it, built on Proportion to the Church, with a lofty Spire of Stone, all the reſt was perfectly finiſhed both within and without, together with a moſt magnificent and ſtately Portico built at the ſole Charge of K. *Charles* I. and ornamented with the Statues of his royal Father and himſelf; this Portico was of the *Corinthian* Order, and intended for an Ambulatory for People, who, by walking in the Body of the Church, were wont to diſturb the Service.

Among the other liberal Contributors to this laudable Undertaking, Sir *Paul Pinder* is eſpecially to be remembered, who at his own Expence repaired the Weſt Diviſion of the Choir, adorning it outwardly with Pillars of black Marble, and Statues of the *Saxon* Kings who had been Benefactors to the antient Fabric, and beautifying it within with excellent Carvings of Angels, Cherubims, and other Imagery richly gilt; beſides contributing 4000 *l.* towards repairing the South Croſs.

All things being now in Readineſs for erecting the Steeple and Spire, an Eſtimate was made of the Moneys contributed for, and the Moneys already expended in Repairs; whereby it appeared that

that £101,330-4-8 had been received into the Chamber of *London* on this Account, and but £35,551-2-4 paid out; ſo that there appeared a Fund ſufficient in Hand to erect it in the moſt magnificent Manner that could be deviſed; but the Flames of Civil War breaking ſoon after violently out, a Period was put to this grand Deſign, and a Cloud overſhadowed the Luſtre of the Whole.--The antient Order of Diſcipline was diſſolved, the Revenues ſeized, the famous Croſs in the Church-yard pulled down, the Scaffolding of the Steeple aſſigned by Parliament for the Payment of Arrears due to the Army; the Body of the Church converted into Saw-pits, and the Choir into a preaching Place, in which the famous Dr. *Cornelius Burgeſs* uſed to inveigh againſt Biſhops; all Order was inverted, all Decency deſtroyed; Part of the South Croſs was ſuffered to tumble down, and the North Croſs was made a Horſe Quarter for Soldiers; the ſtately Portico was let out to Sempſtreſſes and Milliners; and in ſhort this ſtately, this venerable Building, once the Glory and Ornament of this Nation, every Way profaned and debaſed; inſomuch that at the Reſtoration, when the Biſhops with the Deans and Prebends were reſtored, they found the Stalls in the Choir, and the Organ Loft totally demoliſhed, and no Place proper for the Solemnization of God's Worſhip in all this ſtately Edifice; a new Commiſſion was therefore procured for its immediate Reparation, and Money by a voluntary Contribution was brought in with amazing Rapidity; but before any Thing material could be accompliſhed, tho' upwards of 3500*l.* had been expended in Preparations, the dreadful Fire of *London* put the finiſhing Stroke to the Misfortunes that had of late foreboded its final Demolition; and now came to paſs what Lord

Brooke, in ſailing along the Water with three other Lords, in 1640, wiſhed one of them might live to ſee, namely, *no one Stone left upon another of that ſuperſtitious Structure*, as his Lordſhip was pleaſed to call this ſtately Church; for what was left of the ruinated Walls were after this Fire entirely pulled down, and the Foundation cleared in Order to erect the preſent Edifice of which we come now to give an Account. One Thing remarkable, however, we muſt not omit, and that is, concerning the Body of Biſhop *Braybroke* found among the Rubbiſh of this old Fabric in a Leaden Coffin; and tho' it had been buried more than 260 Years, as by the Inſcription appeared, yet it was not the leaſt inclined to Putrefaction, the Fleſh, the Sinews, and Skin being ſo dried to the Bones, that when it was ſet upright it ſtood as ſtiff as a Board. *Dugdale* tells us of two other Bodies found at the ſame Time, dried in the ſame Manner; and mentions beſides the Corpſe of *William Parr*, Marquis of *Northampton*, diſcovered in the Choir of *St. Mary's Church*, *Warwick*, in whoſe Coffin tho' interred 50 Years before, the Roſemary and Bays were alſo as freſh, as if they had not been laid therein ten Days. This he aſcribes to the Heat and Dryneſs of the Duſt wherein thoſe Bodies lay, and not to the Sanctity of the Perſons, as was the prevailing Opinion at that Time, nor to any other ſupernatural Cauſe.

Of the New Cathedral.

AFTER two Years fruitleſs Labour, in endeavouring to fit ſome Part of the old Fabric for Divine Worſhip after the Fire of *London*, it

was

was at Lengh discovered, that the whole was utterly incapable of any substantial Repair; and therefore it was concluded, as has already been intimated, to raze the Foundations of the old Building, and on the same Spot of Ground to erect a new Cathedral, which should equal, if not exceed the Splendor and Magnificence of the Old, for this End, Letters Patents under the great Seal were obtained, directed to several Lords spiritual and temporal, and others of eminent Rank and Quality; authorizing them to proceed in this great Undertaking, according to the Rules and Orders in those Letters Patents prescribed; and especially appointing Dr. *Christopher Wren*, Surveyor General of all his Majesty's Works, to prepare a suitable Design, and cause a Model thereof to be made after so large and exact a Manner as to remain a perpetual and unchangeable Rule and Direction for the Conduct of the whole Work; of which Model we shall speak hereafter. The next thing to be considered was how to raise a Fund sufficient for carrying into Execution a Work of such prodigious Expence; but the liberal Contributions which had formerly been made towards the Reparations only of the old Building, gave Assurance sufficient how little they had to fear on that Account, when a new Fabric that was to be the Glory of the Realm, an Honour to his Majesty's Reign, and a principal Ornament to the great and opulent City of *London*, was cordially set on Foot; and indeed the Expectations of the most sanguine, were greatly exceeded in this Particular; for as the Chamber of *London*, under certain Limitations, was made the Office of Receipt for all Contributions, it appears by an exact Calculation, that in the first ten Years only, more than 126,000 *l.* had been paid in to carry on the Work, for, besides a new

Duty

Duty on Coals which at a Medium produced 5000*l.* a Year, his Majeſty was generouſly pleaſed to allow 1000*l.* a Year out of his Privy Purſe, over and above all other Grants in its Favour; ſo that the Legacies, Subſcriptions and Gifts that were continually falling in were more than enough for the Purpoſes required.

Sir *Chriſtopher* was now called upon to produce his Deſigns, with which he was by no Means unprepared; for he had drawn ſeveral for Diſcourſe Sake only, in Order to diſcover what would be moſt acceptable to the general Taſte; and finding a Concurrence among all Degrees for Magnificence and Grandeur, he endeavoured to gratify the Connoiſeurs with a Deſign antique and well-ſtudied, conformable to the beſt Style of the *Greek* and *Roman* Architecture: And of this Deſign he cauſed a curious large Model in Wood to be made, accurately wrought, with all its proper Ornaments, and preſented it to his Majeſty; but the Biſhops not approving it, as not enough of a Cathedral Faſhion, the Surveyor was ordered to amend it, and at Length produced the Scheme of the preſent mighty Structure, which was honoured with his Majeſty's Approbation: The firſt Deſign, however, which was of one Order only, the *Corinthian*, like St. *Peter's* at *Reme*, the Surveyor ſet a higher Value upon, than any other he ever drew, and what he would have put in Execution with more Chearfulneſs, as the Author of his Life aſſures us, than that which we now ſee erected. This curious original Model is ſtill preſerved in the Cathedral, and may be ſeen at a ſmall Expence.

All Things being thus prepared, and many Difficulties ſurmounted, which aroſe from the Objections of incompetent Judges, in the Year 1675, Sir *Chriſtopher* began to proſecute the Work; the

pulling

pulling down the old Walls, being 80 Feet high, and clearing the Rubbiſh,, had been a troubleſome Buſineſs, in which very many of the Labourers had loſt their Lives; and this had put him upon contriving to facilitate the Execution of it by artificial Means: The firſt Project he tried was with Gun-powder; for when they came to the middle Tower that bore the Steeple, the men abſolutely refuſed to work upon it, being of ſuch a Height as to ſtrike the moſt enterprizing of them with Horror: He therefore cauſed a Hole to be dug about four Feet wide to the Foundation of the North Weſt Pillar, (of which there were four that ſupported it, each 14 Feet diameter) and then with Tools made on Purpoſe wrought a Hole two Feet ſquare into the very Center of the Pillar; there he placed a little Deal Box, containing 18 Pounds of Powder and no more; a Cane was fixed to the Box with a quick Match, and the Hole cloſed up again with as much Art and Strength as poſſible: Nothing remained now but to ſet Fire to the Train, and the Surveyor was exceeding curious to obſerve the Effect of the Exploſion, which indeed was wonderful; for this ſmall Quantity of Powder not only lifted up the whole Angle of the Tower, with two Arches that reſted upon it, but alſo two adjoining Arches of the Iſles, and all above them; and this it ſeemed to do ſomewhat leiſurely, cracking the Walls to the Top, and lifting up viſibly the whole Weight about nine Inches; which ſuddenly tumbling to its Center again cauſed an enormous Heap of Ruin without ſcattering, and it was half a Minute before this huge Mountain opened in two or three Places and emitted Smoak: The Shock of ſo great a Weight from a Height of 200 Feet, alarmed the Inhabitants round about with the terrible Apprehenſions of an Earthquake;

Earthquake; and, after a ſecond Trial of the ſame Kind, managed injudiciouſly by a Deputy, who, too wiſe in his own Conceit, put in a greater Quantity of Powder, and omitted to take the ſame Care in cloſing up the Hole, or digging to the Foundation, tho' it had the deſired Effect, yet one Stone was ſhot, as from the Mouth of a Cannon, to the oppoſite Side of the Church-Yard, aad entered a private Room where ſome Women were at Work, without any Damage; other than ſpreading a Pannic among the Neighbours, who inſtantly made Application above to forbid the farther Uſe of Gunpowder, and Orders were iſſued from the Council Board accordingly. The Surveyor was now reduced to the Neceſſity of trying a new Experiment with the *Battering Ram of the Antients*. He cauſed a ſtrong Maſt forty Feet long, to be ſhod with Iron at the biggeſt End, and to be fortified every Way with Bars and Ferrels; and then ordering it to be ſuſpended level to a triangle Prop, ſet it to work; thirty Men were employed in vibrating this Machine, who beat in one Place againſt the Wall a whole Day without any ſenſible Effect; he bid them not deſpair but try what another Day would produce; on the ſecond Day the Wall was perceived to tremble at Top, and in a few Hours it fell; the Surveyor knew that any preſent Violence of the Ram was incapable of overturning a Wall of ſuch Strength, but inceſſantly vibrating with equidiſtant Pulſes makes a ſmall inteſtine Motion thro' all its Parts, and by Degrees looſens all rhe Bond of Mortar, and moves every Stone from its Bed, till at Length the whole becomes looſe and tumbles. This Machine rherefore he continued to uſe till that tedious Buſineſs was accompliſhed.

Some

Some Remarks which Sir *Chriſtopher Wren* made in clearing the Foundation of this antient Fabric, tho' ſomewhat foreign to my Deſign, will, I am perſuaded, be acceptable to the Curious. He ſeems to diſcredit the received Opinion of this being antiently a Temple of DIANA; becauſe as that Opinion was chiefly grounded on the Report of the Heads of Oxen the Horns of Deer, and the Tuſks of Boars, being commonly dug up here, he met with none ſuch in all his Reſearches; but that the North-ſide, had been antiently a great Burying-Place, appeared to him upon unqueſtionable Evidence; for under the Graves of theſe latter Ages he found in a Row the Graves of the *Saxon*, who were wont to caſe their Dead with Chalk ſtones, tho' thoſe of them of greateſt Eminence were buried in Stone Coffins: Below theſe were Graves of the antient *Britons*, as was maeiſeſt from the great Number of Ivory and Wooden Pins found among the mouldered Duſt; their Method was only to pin the Corpſe in Woollen Shrouds, and lay them in the Ground, which being conſumed the Pins remained entire. Deeper ſtill than theſe were *Roman* Urns, and *Britiſh* Fragments mixed; theſe were found at the Depth of 18 Feet, and he ſuppoſed belonged to the Colony when *Romans* and *Britons* lived and died together. The *Roman* Urns we generally well wrought, of the Colour of the modern red Ware of *Staffordſhire*, hard as China Ware, and as well glazed; and imboſſed with various Figures and Devices; on one of theſe *Charon* was repreſented with his Oar in one Hand, and receiving with the other a naked Ghoſt.

Searching below theſe Graves for the natural Ground, he obſerved that the Foundation of the old Church ſtood upon a Layer of very cloſe and hard

hard Pot-Earth about ſix Feet deep on the North-Side, but gradually thinning towards the South, till on the Decline of the Hill it was ſcarce four Feet; yet he concluded that the ſame Ground which had born ſo weighty a building before might reaſonably be truſted again. Boreing, however, beneath this, he found a Stratum of looſe Sand; and lower ſtill, at the Level of Low water Mark, Water and Sand, mixed with Periwinkles and other Sea Shells; under this a hard Beach; and lowermoſt of all the natural Bed of Clay that extends under the City, and Country and River, far and wide. By theſe Shells he thinks it evident, that the Sea has been where the Hill is, on which St. *Paul's* now ſtands, and that all that Tract of Country between *Camberwell-Hill* and the Hills of *Eſſex* might have been once one great Bay. But to return to the Ruins; in examining theſe he obſerved further, that tho' the old Fabric had ſeveral Times been ruin'd, yet the Foundations appeared to be the ſame as original laid, conſiſting of *Kentiſh-rubble-ſtone*, artfully work'd and conſolidated with exceeding hard Mortar, in the *Roman* Manner, much excelling what he found in the Superſtructure, the Outſide of which was built chiefly with the Freeſtone of the *Palatine Tower*, as has been already ſaid, leſs ſkillfully put together, and with worſe Mortar: A little eaſtward of the Choir he diſcovered nine Wells in a Row, which he believed had antiently belonged to a Street of Houſes extended from *Wattling-ſtreet* to *Cheapſide*. We ſhall have Occaſion to ſpeak of his Diſcoveries in other Parts of the City hereafter. What induced him to change the Scite of the Church, and eraze all the old Foundations after finding them ſo firm, was chiefly to give the new Fabric a more free and graceful Aſpect; yet, after all, he found himſelf too

too much confined, and not able to bring his Front to lie exactly from *Ludgate*: In his Progreſs however, he met with one Misfortune which made him almoſt repent of the Alteration he had made; he began to lay the Foundations from the Weſt End, and having proceeded ſucceſsfully to the Eaſt End, as he was extending his Lines to the North-Eaſt, where nothing was expected to interrupt him, he fell upon a Pit where all the hard Cruſt of Pot-earth that has been mentioned had been robb'd by the Potters of old Time, and the Hole filled up with broken Fragments of Urns, Vaſes, and ſuch like Rubbiſh to his unſpeakable Mortification; he wanted but ſix or ſeven Feet to compleat his Deſign, yet there was no Remedy but digging thro' the Sand, and building from the ſolid Earth that was forty Feet deep at leaſt. Piling was propoſed, but that he utterly rejected as liable to Decay, for his Endeavours were to build to Eternity; he therefore ſunk a Pit 18 Feet wide (tho' he wanted at moſt but ſeven) thro' all the Strata that has already been mentioned, and laid the Foundations of a ſquare Pier of ſolid good Maſonry upon the hard Sea-beach that cover'd the original Clay, which he carried up till he came within 15 Feet of the preſent Surface; and then turned a ſhort Arch under Ground to the Level of the Stratum of hard Pot-Earth, upon which Arch the North-Eaſt Coin of the Choir of St. *Paul's* now ſtands, and no Doubt will ſtand.

This Difficulty being ſurmounted, and the Foundations laid, the next Conſideration was how to compleat the Superſtructure: *Portland* Stone had been made Choice of for that Purpoſe on ſeveral Accounts, but chiefly as thoſe of the largeſt Scantlings were to be procured from thence, yet theſe could not be preſumed upon for Columns

exceeding four Feet in Diameter; this determined Sir *Chriſtopher* to make Choice of two Orders, inſtead of one and an *Attic* Story, as at St. *Peter*'s at *Rome*, in order to preſerve the juſt Proportions of his Cornice, otherwiſe the Fabric muſt have fallen ſhort of its intended Height: *Bramante*, in building St. *Peter*'s, tho' he had the Quarries of *Tivoli* at Hand that could afford him Blocks large enough for his Columns of nine Feet diameter, yet, for Want of Stones of ſuitable Dimenſions, was obliged to diminiſh the Proportions of the proper Members of his Cornice; a Fault, againſt which Sir *Chriſtopher* thought himſelf intereſted to guard. On theſe Principles therefore he proceeded, and raiſed the lofty Edifice we now ſee; a Range of double Pilaſters, with their Entablatures of the *Corinthian* Order, adorn the lower Diviſion of the Building, and as many of the Compoſite or *Roman* Order ornament the Upper; the Spaces between the Arches of the Windows and the Architrave of the lower Order are filled with great Variety of curious Enrichments, as are thoſe likewiſe above. On the Weſt Front he erected a moſt magnificent Portico, graced with two ſtately Turrets and a Pediment, enriched with Sculpture. The Entrance to the North and South is likewiſe by two magnificent Porticos, and the Eaſt End is beautified by a noble Piece of Carving, in Honour of his Majeſty K. *William* III. Over all is a Dome, terminated by a Lantern, Ball, and Croſs; and, that nothing might be wanting to render the whole of a Piece, he had prepared a Model of a magnificent Altar, conſiſting of four Pillars wreathed, of the richeſt *Greek* Marbles, ſupporting a Canopy hemiſpherically, with proper Decorations of Architecture and Sculpture; but this being once unluckily fruſtrated for Want of proper

per Materials, has never ſince been reſumed. It has been aſked, why all the Pilaſters of the Outſide were doubled? the Anſwer is, they ſerve as Buttreſſes, and to give Space to large Windows between; as alſo for adjuſting the Arcades within, and regulating the Roof. The Weſt Portico has given Offence to ſome becauſe the Columns are doubled, contrary to the uſual Mode of the Ancients; but it muſt be obſerved, in the Portico of St *Paul's*, two Columns are brought nearer together to make greater Intercolumns alternately, to give a proper Space for three Doors. The Ancients, particularly the *Greeks*, in their Temples, generally made the middle Intercolumn wider than the reſt; and as they ſhifted the Columns of the Portico for the better Approach to one Door; ſo at St. *Paul's*. for the ſame Reaſon, where there are three Doors, the two ſide Doors for daily Uſe, and the middle for Solemnities, the Columns are widened to make a more free and commodious Acceſs to each, and this falls out gracefully by placing the Pillars alternately, wide and cloſe.

Whatever Objections may have been ſtarted about the Faults committed in Point of Taſte, ſuch as incorporating the leſſer Pallaſters with the greater; not elevating the Vaulting within to a proper Height, nor projecting the Portico without, to a pleaſing Diſtance; making the Dome too large, and the Fabric too ſmall; yet the Skill and Ingenuity of the Architect can never be admired too much when the Strength and Majeſty of the Building are diſtinctly conſidered. He was under an abſolute Neceſſity of making a three-iſled Cathedral; and, to comply with the Humour of the Age, to build it in the Form of a Croſs; he was limited for want of Room to extend its Scite; and conſtrained by the general Expectations of the King-

dom to make it exceed in Height; and, above all Things, his own Ruputation demanded that it ſhould be ſubſtantial. Let this ſuffice at preſent for the outward Structure.

As the Diſpoſition of the Vaultings within is an eſſential Beauty, without which all other Ornaments would be of no Avail, ſo the Surveyor ſeems to have been particularly careful in this Reſpect: "The *Romans* (ſays the Author of *Parentalia*) uſed hemiſpherical Vaultings, Sir *Chriſtopher* choſe thoſe as being demonſtrably lighter than the Diagonal-croſs Vaults: So the whole Vault of St. *Paul*'s conſiſts of 24 Cupolas cut off ſemicircular with Segments to join to the great Arches one Way, and which are cut a-croſs the other Way with eliptical Cylenders to let in the upper Lights of the Nave; but in the Iſles the leſſer Cupolas are both Ways cut in ſemicircular Sections, and altogether make a graceful Geometrical Form diſtinguiſhed with circular Wreaths, which is the horizantal Section of the Cupola; for the Hemiſphere may be cut all Manner of Ways into circular Sections; and the Arches and Wreaths being of Stone carved, the Spandrels between are of found Brick, inveſted with *Stucco* of Cockle-ſhell Lime, which becomes as hard as *Portland-ſtone*; and which having large Planes between the Stone Ribs, are capable of further Ornaments of Painting, if required. Beſides theſe 24 Cupolas, there is a Half-Cupola at the Eaſt, and the great Cupola of 108 Feet Diameter, in the Middle of the croſſing of the great Iſles. In this the Architect imitated the Pantheon at *Rome*, excepting that the upper Order is there only Umbratile, and diſtinguiſhed by different coloured Marbles; in St. *Paul*'s it is extant out of the Wall. The Pantheon is no higher within than its Diameter;

ter; St. *Peter*'s is two Diameters; this ſhews too high, the other too low; St. *Paul*'s is a mean Proportion between both, which ſhews its Concave every Way, and is very lightſome by the Windows of the upper Order, which ſtrike down the Light thro' the great Colonade that encircles the Dome without, and ſerves for the Butment of the Dome, which is Brick of two Bricks thick, but as it riſes every way five Feet high, has a Courſe of excellent Brick of 18 Inches long banding thro' the whole Thickneſs; and moreover, to make it ſtill more ſecure, it is ſurrounded with a vaſt Chain of Iron ſtrongly linked together at every ten Feet. This Chain is let into a Channel cut into the Bandage of *Portland ſtone*, and defended from the Weather by filling the Groove with Lead. The Concave was turned upon a Center; which was judged neceſſary to keep the Work even and true, tho' a Cupola might be built without a Center; but this is obſervable that the Center was laid without any Standards from below to ſupport it; and as it was both Centering and Scaffolding, it remained for the Uſe of the Painter. Every Story of this Scaffolding being circular, and the Ends of all the Ledgers meeting as ſo many Rings, and truly wrought, it ſupported itſelf. This Machine was an Original of the Kind, and will be an uſeful Project for the like Work to an Architect hereafter. It was neceſſary to give a greater Height than the Cupola would gracefully allow within, tho' it is conſiderably above the Roof of the Church; yet the old Church having had before a very lofty Spire of Timber and Lead, the World expected, that the new Work ſhould not in this Reſpect fall ſhort of the Old; the Architect was therefore obliged to comply with the Humour of the Age, and to

raiſe another Structure over the firſt Cupola; and this was a Cone of Brick, ſo built as to ſupport a Stone Lantern of an elegant Figure, and ending in Ornaments of Copper gilt.

As the whole Church above the Vaulting is covered with a ſubſtantial Oaken Roof, and Lead (for no other Covering is ſo durable in our Climate) ſo he covered and hid out of Sight the Brick Cone with another Cupola of Timber and Lead; and between this and the Cone are eaſy Stairs that aſcend to the Lantern: Here the Spectator may have a View of ſuch amazing Contrivances as is indeed aſtoniſhing. He forebore to make little luthern Windows in the Leaden Cupola as are done out of St. *Peter's*, becauſe he had otherwiſe provided for Light enough to the Stairs from the Lantern above, and round the Pedeſtal of the ſame, which are not ſeen below; ſo that he only ribb'd the outward Cupola, which he thought leſs *Gothic*, than to ſtick it full of ſuch little Lights in three Stories one above another as is the Cupola of St. *Peter's*, which could not without Difficulty be mended, and if neglected would ſoon damage the Timbers."

The Inſide of this Cupola is painted, and richly decorated by that eminent *Engliſh* Artiſt Sir *James Thornhill*, who in eight Compartments has repreſented he principal Paſſages in the Hiſtory of St. *Paul*'s Life, namely, his Converſion; his puniſhing *Elymas* the Sorcerer with Blindneſs; his preaching at *Athens*; his curing the poor Cripple at *Lyſtra*, and the Reverence there paid him by the Prieſts of *Jupiter* as a God; his Converſion of the Goaler; his preaching at *Epheſus*, and the burning the magic Books in Conſequence of the Miracles he there wrought; his Trial before *Agrippa*; his Shipwreck on the Iſland of *Melita* or *Malta*, and

and his Miracle of the Viper: Theſe Paintings are all advantageouſly ſeen by Means of a circular Opening thro' which the Light is tranſmitted from the Lantern above, with admirable Effect. But as Sir *Chriſtopher* was aware, that Paintings, tho' ever ſo excellent, are liable to Decay, it was his Intent to have beautify'd the Inſide of his Cupola with the more durable Ornaments of *Moſaic* Work, which ſtrikes the Eye of the Beholder with amazing Luſtre, and which without the leaſt Decay of Colours, is as durable as the Building itſelf; but in this he was unfortunately over-ruled, tho' he had undertaken to procure four of the moſt eminent Artiſts in that Profeſſion from *Italy*.

The higheſt or laſt Stone on the Top of the Lantern, was laid by the Hands of *Chriſtopher Wren*, the Surveyor's Son, in the Year 1710, in the Preſence of Mr. *Strong* (principal Maſon) his Son, and other *Free and Accepted Maſons* who were chiefly employed in the Execution of the Work.—Thus, ſays my Author, was this mighty Fabric, lofty enough to be diſcerned at Sea Eaſtward, and at *Windſor* Weſtward, in the Space of 35 Years, begun and finiſhed by one Architect, (one principal Maſon, Mr. *Strong*) and under one Biſhop of *London*, Dr. *Henry Compton*; and the Charge ſupported chiefly by a ſmall and eaſy Impoſition on Sea-Coal: Whereas St. *Peter*'s at *Rome*, the only Edifice that can come in Competition with it, continued in building 145 Years, under 12 ſucceſſive Architects; aſſiſted by the Police and Intereſts of the *Roman* See; attended by the beſt Artiſts of the World in Sculpture, Statuary, Painting and Moſaic Work; and facilitated by the ready Acquiſition of Marble from the neighbouring Quarries of *Tivoli*.

We have hitherto ſaid nothing in particular of the ingenious Mr. *Hill*, who was chiefly employed in the Decorations; nor of thoſe fine Statues and Carvings of his, that add ſuch Spirit and Beauty to the Appearance of the whole. At a proper Diſtance the Eye is charmed with the lively Repreſentation of St. *Paul*'s Cenverſion carved in Relief on the Pediment of the principal Front; the majeſtic Figure of St. *Paul* on the Apex of the Pediment, with St. *Peter* on his Right, and St. *James* on his Left, have a fine Effect: The four Evengeliſts with their proper Emblems on the Front of the Towers, are likewiſe very judiciouſly diſpoſed and well executed: St. *Matthew* is diſtinguiſhed by an Angel, St. *Mark* by a Lion, St. *Luke* by an Ox, and St *John* by an Eagle. On the Pediment over the North Portico, the royal Arms with the Regalia, ſupported by Angels, are beautifully emboſſed; and leſt this View of the Cathedral ſhould appear barren, the Statues of five of the Apoſtles are placed at proper Diſtances to entertain the Sight. The Device on the Pediment over the South Portico, of a Phœnix riſing out of the Flames with the Word RESURGAM underneath it, had perhaps its Origin from an Incident, which happened at the Beginning of the Work, and which was particularly remarked by the Architect as a favourable Omen: The Incident was this; when Sir *Chriſtopher* himſelf had ſet out upon the Place the Dimenſions of the Building, and fixed upon the Center of the great Dome, a common Labourer was ordered to bring him a flat Stone, the firſt he came at, from among the Rubbiſh, to leave as a Mark of Direction to the Maſons; the one which the Fellow brought and laid down for Purpoſe, happened to be a Piece of a Grave-with nothing remaining of the Inſcription but

but this ſingle Word in large Capitals RESURGAM; a Circumſtance which Sir *Chriſtopher* never forgot. On this Side of the Building are likewiſe five Statues, which take their Situation from that of St. *Andrew* on the Apex of the Pediment juſt mention'd.

It remains now only to ſpeak of the Dimenſions of this new Fabric, and then to conclude our Deſcription of it. Its Dimenſions, therefore, from Eaſt to Weſt within the Walls are 500 Feet; from North to South, within the Doors of the Portico's 223 Feet; the Breadth at the Entrance 100 Feet; its Circuit 2292 Feet; its Height within 110 Feet; to the Gallery of the Dome 208 Feet; to the upper Gallery 276; the Diameter of the Dome 108 Feet; from thence to the Top of the Croſs 64 Feet; of the Croſs from the Ball 10 Feet; the Diameter of the Ball ſix Feet; the Diameter of the Columns of the Portico's four Feet, their Height 48 Feet; to the Top of the Weſt Pediment under the Figure of St. *Paul* 120 Feet; of the Towers at the Weſt Front, 280 Feet; and the Extent of the Ground-Plot whereon it ſtands, two Acres, 16 Perches, 23 Yards, and one Foot. This vaſt Fabric is ſurrounded at a proper Diſtance with ſtrong Iron Paliſadoes, in Number about 2500; and in the Area of the grand Weſt Front, on a Pediſtal of excellent Workmanſhip, ſtands a Statue of Queen *Anne*; with proper Decorations. The Figures on the Baſe repreſent *Britania* with her Spear; *Gallia* with a Crown in her Lap; *Hibernia* with her Harp; and *America* with her Bow; all of the Workmanſhip of the ſame ingenious Statuary that performed the reſt.

This grand Cathedral, thus finiſhed, as an excellent Author obſerves, "is undoubtedly one of "the moſt magnificent modern Buildings in *Eu-*

"*rope*;

" *rope*; all the Parts of which it is compoſed are " ſuperlatively beautiful and noble; the North " and South Fronts in particular, are very perfect " Pieces of Architecture, neither ought the Eaſt " to go without due Applauſe. The two Spires " at the Weſt End are in a finiſhed Taſte, and " the Portico with the Aſcent, and the Dome " that riſes in the Center of the whole afford a " very auguſt and ſurprizing Proſpect." In ſhort, in ſurveying this ſtupenduous Monument of our Country's Genius, the Imagination is filled with a lofty Kind of Admiration, which no Building of leſs Majeſty and Grandeur can excite.

Of the CURIOSITIES *which Strangers pay to ſee.*

ENTERING at the South Door on your right Hand are the Stairs by which you aſcend the Cupola, and here you muſt pay Two-pence to gratify your Curioſity with a Proſpect from the Golden-Gallery, as it is called, of the River, City, and Country round; which in a clear Day diſcovers the moſt pleaſing Variety in the World: You arrive at this Gallery by 534 Steps, 260 of which are ſo eaſy that a Child may aſcend them; but thoſe above are unpleaſant, and in ſome Places exceeding dark, particularly between the Brick Cone already ſpoken of and the outer Caſe of the Dome; but what Light you have, affords you an amazing Proof of the Architects wonderful Contrivance. From the firſt Gallery you have a fine Proſpect,

Proſpect, with which many remain ſatisfied, and never attempt to go any higher.

In your Deſcent, you will be invited to ſee the Whiſpering-Gallery, which will likewiſe coſt you Two-pence; and it is from hence you have the moſt advantageous View of the fine Paintings in the Cupola; to this Gallery there is an eaſy Aſcent for Perſons of Note by a moſt beautiful Flight of Stairs, not to be exceeded: Here Sounds are enlarged to an amazing Degree, the ſhutting of the Door ſeems as loud as Thunder at a Diſtance; the leaſt Whiſper is heard round the whole Circumference; and one Perſon ſpeaking againſt the Wall, on this Side, appears to be preſent to another on the other Side, tho' the Diſtance between them is no leſs than 143 Feet. This will afford an Idea how the Oracles of old may have been delivered, and the World by the Art of the Builder in the Formation of their Idolatrous Temples impoſed upon.

The next Thing you are invited to ſee is the Library, the Flooring whereof is indeed the greateſt Curioſity in it, for that is moſt artfully inlaid without either Nails or Pegs, like the framing of a Billiard-table; the Books are neither numerous, nor valuable; but the Wainſcotting and Caſes for their Reception, want neither Elegance nor Convenience. There is here a fine Painting of Biſhop *Compton*, under whom, as has been ſaid, the Cathedral was built.

The next Curioſity is the fine Model which Sir *Chriſtopher Wren* firſt cauſed to be made, in order to have built the new Cathedral in every Reſpect like it. It is a Miſtake that this Model was taken from St. *Peter*'s at *Rome*; it was Sir *Chriſtopher*'s own Invention, laboured with much Study, and, as he thought, finiſhed with good

Succeſs. Pity it is that ſo valuable a Fragment of the utmoſt Exertion of this great Man's Genius ſhould be ſuffered to run to Decay.

You are likewiſe aſked to ſee the great Bell, in the South Tower, which weighs 84 C Weight: On this Bell the Hammer of the great Clock ſtrikes the Hour, and on a leſſer Bell the Quarters are ſtruck. But the Sound of Both is ſo exceſſive loud, that tender Ears are much affected if either happens to ſtrike while near them. The Sound of the great Bell is ſaid to have been heard as far as *Windſor*; and a Soldier upon Duty there in the Dead of Night being found aſleep, as his Officer believed, eſcaped Puniſhment by telling him he was only attentively liſtening to St. *Paul*'s Clock which had juſt ſtruck thirteen; the Officer thought it a Matter worth Enquiry, and met with a Confirmation of the Fact by Officers as well as Soldiers on Duty in St. *James*'s *Park*.

Laſtly, you are ſhewn the Geometry Stairs, as they are called, the Steps of which are ſo artfully contrived as to hang as it were together without any viſible Support. There is nothing novel in this, and yet this manner of Building may be ſaid to be the fartheſt Limits thatthe Geometric Powers have hitherto been carried into Practice.

Of the CARVING *in the Inſide.*

BEſides the Choir, the Stalls of which, are indeed very beautifully carved, and the other Ornaments equal in Point of Workmanſhip to any thing of the Kind, there is a Morning-prayer Chapel in this Cathedral where divine Service is performed every

every Day, *Sundays* excepted, the Front of which has a magnificent Screen of carved Wainſcot that has been particularly admired by the beſt Judges, as has the Carving of the ſtately Figures that adorn the Organ Caſe; but, amidſt all theſe ſeveral Beauties, ſomething ſeems ſtill to be wanting to render the whole compleat; "the Opening through the preſent beautiful Range of Stalls, *ſays a judicious Critic*, might have terminated in a much more magnificent Alcove than we ſee there at preſent, adorned with all the Elegance and Profuſion of Decoration; the * Altar ſhould have been raiſed of the richeſt Marble in the moſt expenſive Taſte, that it might have been of a-piece with the Reſt of the Church, and terminated the View of the Whole with all the Graces of the moſt luxuriant Imagination. All the intermediate Spaces ſhould have been filled up with the nobleſt Hiſtorical Paintings; all the Majeſty of Frize-Work, Cornices, and Carving, heighten'd with the moſt coſtly Gildings, ſhould have been laviſhed to adorn it; and one grand Flow of magnificent Curtain depended from the Windows to finiſh the whole." But notwithſtanding all theſe Objections, and more that have been ſtarted, we will venture to conclude, that for Loftineſs and Grandeur, Beauty in Perſpective, Truth and Firmneſs in Building, Taſte in Deſign, Harmony of Parts, and Convenience for the ſolemn Celebration of Divine Worſhip, there neither is, nor ever was, ſo perfect a Building begun and finiſh'd under the ſole Direction of one Man, in the Univerſe.

* This was intended by Sir *Chriſtopher*, and the preſent Ornaments made only to ſerve a Turn till Materials could be procured for a more magnificent Deſign.

The Dimenſions of the old Cathedral of St. Paul *compared with the New, and both with St.* Peter's *at* Rome.

	Old St. *Paul's.* Feet.	New St. *Paul's.* Feet.	St *Peter's.* Feet.
Long within - -	690	500	669
Broad at the Entrance		100	226
Front without - -		180	395
Broad at the Croſs	130	223	442
Cupola clear - -		108	139
Heigth from the Level of the Ground	520	440	578
Height of the Churches	150	110	146
Cupola and Lanthern high - - -		330	432

Old St. Paul's *ſtood upon three Acres and a half, one Rood and a Half, and ſix Perches of Ground.*

New St. Paul's *ſtands upon two Acres, ſixteen Perches, 23 Yards, and one Foot.*

SOME

SOME

ACCOUNT

OF

LONDON-STONE.

IT ſeems really matter of Surpriſe, that *London-Stone*, which from Age to Age has been preſerved with ſo much Care, ſhould yet have ſo little ſaid about it, as that the Original Cauſe of its Erection, or the Uſe for which it was intended is now utterly unknown. Some Conjectures I ſhall venture indeed to make concerning it, but, after all, I muſt acknowledge them not founded on Evidence ſufficient to eſtabliſh the Fact.

That it is a Fragment of *Roman* Antiquity, I believe is certain: And that *London* itſelf is a *Roman* City, appears to me no leſs ſo; for whatever may be the fabulous Origin of either, I am convinced, that from our own Records no Trace can be gather'd, when, by whom, or on what Occaſion they were erected: That no ſuch City as *London* exiſted at the Time of the *Roman* Invaſion is manifeſt from the Silence of *Cæſar* concerning it; for he who came to inform himſelf of the Manners, Cuſtoms, and Country of the *Ancient Britons*, in order to tranſmit to Poſterity what he thought memorable amongſt them, would hardly have paſſed over ſo remarkable a Part as their capital

City

City without proper Notice; but there are other corroborating Proofs of this Fact, for which I muſt refer my Readers to more voluminous Tracts: If therefore *London* appears to be a *Roman* City, it will be no improbable Conjecture that *London-Stone* was the Center, from whence they extended its Dimenſions, and might ſerve likewiſe for a GOLDEN STONE, as they were uſed to call the Standard at which they began to compute their Miles. I find of my Opinion in this Particular Mr. *Maitland* Author of the *Hiſtory of London*, and Sir *Chriſtopher Wren*, who grounded his Conjecture upon Proofs which are not every Day to be obtained; for after the great Conflagration in 1666, being employ'd to rebuild moſt of the Churches in the City, he then had an Opportunity of diſcovering and tracing the ancient Boundaries of *London*, with a greater Nicety than is ever to be expected again: On clearing the Foundations of St. *Mary le Bow* in *Cheapſide*, he found, upon opening the Ground, the Walls, with the Windows alſo, and Pavement of a *Roman* Temple, entirely buried under the Level of the preſent Street; this Temple ſtood about 40 Feet backwards, but having Occaſion to bring the Steeple of the New Church to range with the High Street, he again began to dig thro' the Made-ground, till at eighteen Feet deep, to his Surprize, he diſcovered a *Roman* Cauſway of rough Stone, four Feet thick, cloſe and well-ramm'd, with *Roman* Brick and Rubbiſh at the Bottom, all firmly cemented; he was therefore of Opinion for divers Reaſons * that this

* Particularly, becauſe the North-ſide beyond the Cauſway was a great Fen or Moraſs, as Sir *Chriſtopher* diſcovered when he rebuilt the Eaſt Front of St. *Lawrence* near *Guildhall*. This Moraſs was not drained till the Year 1414, and ſtill retains the Name of *Moorfields*, and the Gate *Moorgate*.

was

was the North Boundary of the *Roman* Colony, and that the Breadth then from North to South was from this Cauſway, now *Cheapſide*, to the River *Thames*; the Extent Eaſt and Weſt from *Tower-Hill* to *Ludgate*, and the principal or Prætorian Way, he ſuppoſed, to be *Watling-ſtreet*; hence it appears that LONDON-STONE was then nearly in the Center. I ſhall mention but one Argument more to ſtrengthen my Conjecture, and then leave it to the Judgement of the Reader. After the Fire already mentioned, the Labourers in digging the Foundations of the Houſes in *Scots-Yard*, between *London Stone* and the River, at the Depth of twenty Feet diſcovered a teſſelated or chequered Pavement after the *Roman* Manner, and the Remains of a large Building or Hall; the former was ſuppoſed to belong to the *Roman* Governor's Palace, and the latter to be the Court of Juſtice; and as the *Romans* were wont to build their *Baſilica's* in the *Forum* of their Cities, it is more than probable that LONDON-STONE, ſtood as well in the Center of the *Forum*, as in the Center of the City.

I would here be underſtood, however, to mean the City as it was before the Deſtruction of it by *Boadicea*, for afterwards I am inclined to believe it was greatly enlarged, and encompaſſed with Walls, which it had hardly been before, there being neither Time nor Leiſure for ſuch a laborious Undertaking.

It would be leading me, perhaps, too far into a Diſpute that has already divided almoſt all the Antiquarians that have written upon the Subject, if I were to offer a Conjecture that the *Londinium* of *Tacitus*, was no other than the *Came-Ludunum* of the ſame Author, and that the latter might be given by the Natives, whoſe Language, we well know,

know, would admit of no very near Approach to that of the *Romans*, and whoſe Genius it was, and is, to affix ſome Peculiarity of their own to every Name of Note, either by Way of Eminence or Reproach.

Why *Malden* in *Eſſex* ſhould be pitched upon as the *Cameludunum* of *Tacitus*, I own I can yet ſee no good Reaſon aſſigned; but it may be urged that *Tacitus* himſelf has ſufficiently diſtinguiſhed between his *Londinium* and *Cameludunum*, by repreſenting the former as a Place of great Trade, and the latter as a *Roman* Camp. But this he might do with great Propriety; for where ſhould the *Romans* begin to ſettle a Commercial City ſo properly as under the Protection of the principal Diviſion of their Army? And that *Boadicea* attacked the Head Quarters of the *Romans*, and, after a complete Victory, ruined and deſtroyed their Commercial City, is, I think, unanimouſly agreed. There is one Argument more that ſtrengthens my Conjecture, and I think a ſtrong one, namely, that after the Re-eſtabliſhment of this commercial City we hear no more of the *Britiſh Cameludunum*, the *Roman* Name *Londinium* being changed to *Auguſta*. And tho' later Writers have adopted *Londinium*, in Preference either to *Auguſta* or *Cameludunum*, yet this is by no Means without Precedent: The *Grecians*, for Ages, bore the Name of *Hellades* and their Country *Hellas*, from *Hellene*, *Deucalion*'s Son who reigned in *Phthia*, yet the *Romans* have reſtored their former Name, and *Hellas* and *Hellades* are now diſus'd.

OF THE

MONUMENT.

THIS great fluted Column, in the Year 1671, was begun by Sir *Chriſtopher Wren*, by Order of Parliament, in Commemoration of the great Conflagration ſo often mention'd; and was finiſhed by the ſame Architect in 1677. In forming this ſtately Column, which is of the *Doric* Order, Sir *Chriſtopher* has taken the Liberty to exceed the received Proportion of the Order one Module or Semidiameter. In the Place of the Braſs Urn on the Top, ſays the Author of *Parentalia*, * a Coloſs Statue of King *Charles the Second* was originally intended, after the Manner of the *Roman* Pillars which terminated with the Statues of their *Cæſars*; or elſe a Figure erect of a Woman crowned with Turrets, holding a Sword or a Cap of Maintenance, with other Enſigns of the City's Grandeur and Re-erection. The Altitude from the Pavement is 202 Feet; the Diameter of the Shaft or Body of the Column is 15 Feet; the Ground Plinth or loweſt Part of the Pedeſtal is 28 Feet ſquare; and the Pedeſtal in Height is 40 Feet.

* This ingenious Gentleman was Son to Sir *Chriſtopher Wren*, but the Work in his Life-time remained unpubliſh'd, and has lately been publiſhed by his Grandſon *Stephen Wren*, Eſq; and contains many valuable Particulars, without the Help of which, our *Hiſtory of St. Paul's* muſt have been very incomplete.

Over

Over the Capital is an Iron Balcony encompaſſing a Cone 32 Feet high, ſupporting a blazing Urn of gilt Braſs. Within is a large Stair-Caſe of black Marble, containing 345 Steps, each 10 Inches and a Half broad, and ſix Inches thick. The Weſt-Side of the Pedeſtal is adorned with a curious Emblem in Alt Relief, denoting the Deſtruction and Reſtoration of the City; the firſt female Figure repreſents the City of *London*, ſitting in Ruins in a languiſhing Poſture, with her Head dejected, Hair diſhevelled, and her Hand careleſsly lying on her Sword. Behind is *Time*, gradually raiſing her up: At her Side a Woman gently touching her with one Hand, whilſt a winged Scepter in the other directs her to regard the Goddeſſes in the Clouds, one with a Cornucopiæ denoting Plenty, the other with a Palm Branch, the Emblem of Peace. At her Feet a Bee-hive, ſhewing that by Induſtry and Application the greateſt Misfortunes are to be overcome. Behind *Time* are Citizens exulting at his Endeavours to reſtore her, and beneath, in the Midſt of the Ruins, is a Dragon, who, as Supporter of the City Arms, with his Paw endeavours to preſerve the ſame: Oppoſite the City, on an elevated Pavement ſtands the King in a *Roman Habit* with a Laurel on his Head, and a Truncheon in his Hand; and, approaching her, commands three of his Attendants to deſcend to her Relief; the *firſt* repreſents the *Sciences* with a winged Head and Circle of naked Boys dancing thereon, and holding *Nature* in her Hand with her numerous Breaſts ready to give Aſſiſtance to all; the *ſecond* is *Architecture*, with a Plan in one Hand, and a Square and Pair of Compaſſes in the other: And the *third* is *Liberty* waving a Hat in the Air, ſhewing her Joy at the pleaſing Proſpect of the City's ſpeedy Recovery. Behind the King ſtands his

his Brother, the Duke of *York*, with a Garland in one Hand to crown the riſing City, and a Sword in the other for her Defence. And the two Figures behind are *Juſtice* and *Fortitude*; the former with a Coronet, and the latter with a reined Lion And under the royal Pavement, in a Vault, lieth *Envy* gnawing a Heart, and inceſſantly emitting peſtiferous Fumes from her envenom'd Mouth. And in the upper Part of the Plinth the Reconſtruction of the City is repreſented by Builders and Labourers at Work upon Houſes.

On the North Side of the Pedeſtal is a *Latin* Inſcription thus rendered: "In the Year of *Chriſt* 1666, *Sept.* 2. Eaſtward from hence, at the Diſtance of 202 Feet (the Height of this Column) a terrible Fire broke out about Midnight; which driven on by a high Wind, not only waſted the adjacent Parts, but alſo very remote Places with incredible Crackling and Fury. It conſumed 89 Churches, the City Gates, *Guildhall*, many public Structures, Hoſpitals, Schools, Libraries, a vaſt Number of ſtately Edifices, 13000 Dwelling-Houſes, and 400 Streets. Of the 26 Wards it utterly deſtroy'd fifteen, and left eight others ſhattered and half burnt. The Ruins of the City were 436 Acres from the *Tower* by the *Thames Side* to the *Temple Church*; and from the North Eaſt along the Wall to *Holborn-bridge*. To the Eſtates and Fortunes of the City it was mercileſs, but to their Lives very favourable, that it might in all things reſemble the laſt Conflagration of the World. The Deſtruction was ſudden; for in a ſmall Space of Time the City was ſeen moſt flouriſhing, and reduced to nothing. Three Days after, when this fatal Fire had baffled all human Counſels and Endeavours; in the Opinion of all,

it

it ſtopp'd, as it were by a Command from Heaven, and was on every Side extinguiſhed."

The Inſcription on the South Side is tranſlated thus: "*Charles the ſecond*, Son of *Charles the* "*Martyr*, K. of *Great-Britain*, *France* and *Ire-*"*land*, Defender of the Faith, a moſt gracious "Prince, commiſerating the deplorable State of "Things, whilſt the Ruins were yet ſmoaking, "provided for the Comfort of his Citizens, and "Ornament of his City; remitted their Taxes, "and referred the Petition of the Magiſtrates and "Inhabitants to Parliament; who immediately "paſſed an Act, that public Works ſhould be re-"ſtored to greater Beauty with public Money "to be raiſed by an Impoſt on Coals; that "Churches, and the Cathedral of St. *Paul*'s ſhall "be rebuilt from their Foundations with all Mag-"nificence; that Bridges, Gates, and Priſons "ſhould be new made, the Sewers cleanſed, the "Streets made ſtreight and regular; ſuch as were "ſteep levelled, and thoſe too narrow to be made "wider. Markets and Shambles removed to ſepa-"rate Places. They alſo enacted, that every Houſe "ſhould be built with Party-walls, and all in "Front raiſed of equal Height, and thoſe Walls "all of ſquare Stone or Brick; and that no Man "ſhould delay building beyond the Space of ſe-"ven Years. Moreover Care was taken by "Law, to prevent all Suits about their Bounds. "Alſo anniverſary Prayers were enjoined; and "to perpetuate the Memory hereof to Poſterity, "they cauſed this Column to be erected. The "Work was carried on with Diligence, and *Lon-*"*don* is reſtored, but whether with greater Speed or "Beauty may be made a Queſtion. At three Years "Time the World ſaw that finiſhed, which was "ſuppoſed to be the Buſineſs of an Age."

The

The Inſcription on the Eaſt Side is in *Engliſh* thus:

This Pillar was begun
Sir *Richard Ford*, Knt. being Lord Mayor of *London*, in the Year 1671.

Carry'd on in the Mayoralties of
Sir *George Waterman*, Knt.
Sir *Robert Hanſon*, Knt.
Sir *William Hooker*, Knt.
Sir *Robert Viner*, Knt.
Sir *Joſeph Sheldon*, Knt.
} Lord Mayors.

And finiſhed
Sir *Thomas Davies* being Lord Mayor, in the Year 1677.

Round the Monument was this Inſcription:

"This Pillar was ſet up in perpetual Remembrance of the moſt dreadful Burning of this Proteſtant City, begun and carried on by the Treachery and Malice of the Popiſh Faction in the Beginning of *September* in the Year of our Lord 1666, in order to the carrying on their horrid Plot for extirpating the Proteſtant Religion, and *Old Engliſh* Liberty, and introducing Popery and Slavery.

This Inſcription, upon the Duke of *York*'s Acceſſion to the Crown, was immediately erazed; but ſoon after the Revolution reſtored again.

This Monument, *ſays the Author of the Review of our public Buildings*, "is undoubtedly the noble[ſ]t modern Column in the World; nay, in ſome Reſpects, it may juſtly vie with thoſe celebrated ones of Antiquity, which are conſecrated

"ed to the Names of *Trajan*, and *Antonine* *. No-
"thing can be more bold and ſurprizing, nothing
"more beautiful and harmonious: The Bas Relief
"at the Baſe †, allowing for ſome ſmall Defects,
"is finely imagined, and executed as well; and
"nothing material can be cavilled with, but the
"Inſcriptions round it." Theſe Sir *Chriſtopher Wren*, had prepared in a more Maſculine Style, as appears by the *Parentalia*, ſo often quoted, but was over-ruled.

* The greateſt of the *Roman* Columns, which was that of *Antonine* was but 172 Feet and a half in Height, and 12 Feet three Inches in Diameter; *Trajan*'s but 147 in Height.

† This was the Handy-work of that great *Engliſh* Statuary Mr. *Cibber*, Father to *Colley Cibber*, Eſq; Poet Laureat.

OF THE CITY-WALL AND GATES.

WE have already taken Notice, that the antient Boundaries of *London* were very narrow; and that no Wall was at firſt thought neceſſary for its Defence; being bounded on the South by the River *Thames*; on the Weſt by the River *Fleet*; on the North by a deep Moraſs; and on the Eaſt by a River called *the River of Wells*, now *Wall-brook*: No Wonder therefore that a Spot thus fortified by Nature ſhould invite the *Romans* to make Choice of it for the principal Seat of their Government; but notwithſtanding theſe Advantages, being ſurprized by the *Antient Britons* under the Command of *Boadicea*; and having their Entrenchments forced, their Infant Colony burnt, and the greateſt Part of its Inhabitants maſſacred; when they had again ſubdued their Enemies, they again reaſſumed their former Reſidence, and charmed with the happy Situation of it, determined to render it ſecure from any future Ravages of the Natives, by enlarging its Limits, and ſurrounding it with an impregnable Wall, fortified with Towers,

and acceſſible only by ſtrong Gates. At what Time this happened does not certainly appear, nor indeed how far the firſt Wall extended, particularly towards the North; but Authors unanimouſly agree, that antiently there were but four Gates by which the *Roman* City could be entered; three of theſe Gates are ſtill remaining, but *Dourgate* being utterly demoliſh'd, the ſimilar Name of *Dowgate* is all that is left to determine its Situation. In Proceſs of Time, as the Trade of the City encreaſed, Gates were multiplied; and there are now no leſs than ſeven, beſides the Poſtern on *Tower-hill*, and the *Bridge-gate*, both of which are of great Antiquity.

The *Poſtern-gate* was erected ſoon after the Conqueſt; but *Richard* I. reſolving to enlarge the *Tower of London* with an additional Fortification, that Part of the City Wall extending from thence to this Gate, in Length about 100 Yards, was pulled down, and with it the Gate itſelf, which was never afterwards rebuilt. This happened about the Year 1440.

Aldgate, which is ſituated 1462 Feet to the Northward of this *Poſtern*, is univerſally allowed to be one of the four original Gates of the *Roman City*; but, being very ruinous, in 1606 it was pulled down and rebuilt. In digging under the Ruins ſome *Roman Coins* were diſcovered, two of which Mr. *Bond*, the Surveyor, cauſed to be copy'd on Stone and placed on the Eaſt Front of the new Gate, on each Side the Paſſage. In 1734 a Water-conduit at the South Eaſt Angle of it was pulled down, and two Houſes built in its Room; and at the ſame Time a Poſtern was made in the South End of the Gate for the Convenience of Foot Paſſengers.—The Apartments over this Gate are for the Uſe of ſome of the Lord Mayor's Officers.

Biſhopſgate,

Biſhopſgate, ſituated 1440 Feet to the North-weſt of the former, is by ſome ſuppoſed to have been built by *Erkenwald*, Biſhop of *London*, in the 7th Century, and by others by *William the Norman*, another Biſhop of *London*, 400 Years later; hence it took its Name of *Biſhopſgate*. In 1551, being much decay'd, the *Anſeatic Company* began to prepare Materials for rebuilding it; but that Company being ſoon after diſſolved, the Care of it reverted to the City, who propt it up till the Year 1731, when it was forced to be taken down and re-erected.

Moorgate lies 1664 Feet to the Weſtward of *Biſhopſgate*, and was erected in 1415, after *Francerius*, the then Lord Mayor, had drained all that Tract of Ground to the North of the City now called *Moorfields*. This is one of the moſt magnificent Gates of the City, with two Poſterns for the Convenience of Foot-paſſengers, and fine Apartments for the Uſe of my Lord Mayor's Officers.

Cripplegate is 1032 Feet from *Moorgate*, and is ſuppoſed by *Maitland* to be one of the four original *Roman* Gates, in Preference to *Alderſgate*, which *Stow* and almoſt all the other City Antiquarians have adopted. The Name of *Cripplegate* ſeems of modern Date, and given it from the Number of Cripples that reſorted thither to beg. I find nothing certain concerning its firſt Erection; and therefore ſhall juſt take Notice, that it was repaired at the City's Charge in 1663, when a new Poſtern was added to it. The Apartments over it belong to the Water-bailiff.

Alderſgate is 1265 Feet to the South Weſt of *Cripplegate*, and by Reaſon of its Name is by *Stow* ſuppoſed to be of greater Antiquity; and indeed I cannot help ſubſcribing to his Opini-

on; for *Alder* or *Older-Gate* is certainly of *Saxon Etymology*, and was no doubt given it as a Mark of Seniority. The preſent Gate was built in 1617, and after the Fire of *London* repaired and beautified in 1670. The Apartments belong to the Common Cryer.

Newgate is 1037 Feet South Weſt of *Alderſgate* and is by *Maitland*, thought to be the fourth Original Gate, in Oppoſition to moſt other Antiquarians, who take *Ludgate* to have been the original Gate. The Reaſon on which he grounds his Opinion, is, becauſe in digging a Foundation for the preſent *Holborne-bridge*, the Traces of a *Roman* Military Way, which he calls the *Wattling-ſtreet*, were diſcovered, pointing directly to *Newgate*; but the Name of *Newgate* I take to be a fuller Proof of its Juniority than any that can be founded on ſuch uncertain Conjectures. For ſuppoſing, what he ſeems to lay great Streſs upon, that this Gate was only repaired and not originally built in the Time of *Henry* III. and that, inſtead of *Newgate*, it was antiently called *Chamberlayngate*, yet I can hardly believe, that our Anceſtors, upon that Reparation, would have diſhonoured one of the oldeſt Gates of the City with a *New* Name; we have no Authority for any ſuch Suppoſition: beſides, were it any Part of the Buſineſs of this Book to enter into the Diſpute, I think Proofs enough might be drawn from *Maitland*'s own Hiſtory, to eſtabliſh the Point in favour of *Ludgate*. The Date of the preſent Gate, however, is of no greater Antiquity than the Fire of *London*, when it was rebuilt with greater Strength and Magnificence than any other Gate in *London*, being appropriated to the Purpoſes of Impriſonment, as well of Traitors, as of Felons and Debtors.

Ludgate

Ludgate is but 797 Feet from *Newgate*, and takes its Name (as by a Statue of King *Lud* and his two Sons, erected upon it, ſhould ſeem) from a *Britiſh* Prince of that Name, its Founder. *Leland* has refuted this fabulous Origin, and with more Reaſon derives its Name from the *Saxon* Word *Flud*, *Vloet*, *Floete*, or *Fleet*, which implies a ſmall Water-courſe, as the River *Fleet* undoubtedly was at that Time, and but a little Diſtance from it; and here I cannot help obſerving ſomething characteriſtic in the Names of the four original Gates even at this Day, *Lud* or *Flud-gate*, *Dour-gate*, *Ald-gate*, and *Alder-gate*, are all unqueſtionably of *Saxon* Derivation; whereas the other Gates, *Newgate*, *Cripplegate*, *Moorgate*, and *Biſhopſgate*, and viſibly more modern. I own from this Obſervation, which I am inclined to think not altogether viſionary, a Doubt ariſes with me whether the Antiquity of any of the Gates or of the Walls themſelves, as we have now traced them, riſes higher than the *Saxon* Times. That Part of the Walls which runs from *Biſhopſgate* to *Cripplegate*, is confeſſedly a new Work, comparatively ſpeaking, becauſe the great Moor itſelf on which it ſtands was drained but in 1414, as has been ſufficiently proved. And *Woodward* in his *preſent State of London* has ſhewn, that the Foundation only of that Part of the City Wall from *Biſhopſgate* onwards to the South Eaſt, lately beat down to make way for new Buildings, was *Roman*; "being alternately compiled, *as he obſerved*, of Layers of "broad flat Bricks, exactly of the *Roman Standard*, and of Rag-ſtone, cemented with a Mortar ſo very firm and hard that the Stone itſelf as "eaſily gave way as that." Whereas the Superſtructure, tho' carried up of the ſame Thickneſs, was neither of ſuch elegant Workmanſhip,

nor

nor ſuch good Mortar; nor was there one of the broad thin *Roman* Bricks to be found in any Part of the upper Wall.

The Foundation here ſpoken of was about nine Feet under Ground; hence it appears that the *Roman* Works, by whatever Means it has happened, is ſunk ſo far below the preſent Surface of the City, as no where to be diſcovered but by digging, and this being only partial, in different Places, and at different Times, no certain Concluſions can be drawn from the Parts thus accidentally brought to Light, except more Care and Pains, as well as Charge, were beſtowed in examining their Courſe, and determining their Extent. Indeed, if ſome public-ſpirited Magiſtrate ſhould ariſe, who being himſelf excited by a laudable Deſire of promoting Diſcoveries of this Kind, would give Encouragment to a certain Number of ingenious Workmen to employ their Time in ſuch Purſuits, I make no Queſtion but by a careful Compariſon of the Diſcoveries that have already been made, with thoſe that might ſoon be made, the Limits of the *Roman* City would ſtill be made appear, and the Point decided how much our *Saxon* Anceſtors owed to their Predeceſſors the *Romans*; and what the *Norman* Invaders owed to both; or, in other Words, where each left off, and the other began; a Matter, it muſt be owned, rather of Curioſity than Uſe.

From *Ludgate* there is little of the Old Wall remaining; but the Meaſurements of the antient Line are thus preſerved: From *Ludgate* to *Fleet-ditch* weſtward is 450 Feet; from thence to the River *Thames* 780 Feet; and from *Fleet-ditch*, eaſtward to the *White-Tower*, to which the City-wall was antiently joined, 5950 Feet; ſo that the whole Circumference of the City within the Walls

is juſt three Miles 165 Feet. That the City was formerly walled on the South Side along the River *Thames*, appears from *Fitz-Stevens*, a Writer in the Time of *Henry* II. who ſays, that the Wall on the North was in the Form of a Bow, and on the South like the String of it; and further that the Ebbing and Flowing of the *Thames* had then wholly waſhed it down on that Side.

The firſt building of the City-Wall is fixed by *Maitland* to the Æra of *Theodoſius* in 368; by others to that of *Hellena*, Mother of *Conſtantine*, about 60 Years earlier; but by *Stow* to the Year 434; about which Time the City took the Name of *Auguſta*. In 839 the Old Wall was demoliſhed; in 886 reſtored; in 994 and 1016 it was much injured by the *Danes*; but in 1215 repaired by the Barons, who, as Authors ſay, plundered and demoliſhed the Houſes of the *Jews*, and with the Stones repaired the City-walls; and indeed a late Diſcovery of a Stone with an old *Hebrew* Inſcription upon it found in the old Wall on the Backſide of *Bethlem* ſeems to confirm this Fact.

Among the Gates belonging to the City, the *Bridgegate* has been accounted one; but as it never could belong to the Walls, I ſee no Reaſon for extending its Antiquity, as ſome have done, beyond the Æra of the Bridge. It is as idle to ſuppoſe the Bridge built for the Convenience of the Gate, and not the Gate for the Defence of the Bridge; as to ſuppoſe *Weſtminſter* built for the Sake of the Abbey, and not the Abbey for the Uſe of *Weſtminſter*. Such Conjectures as theſe deſerve no ſerious Refutation. *London Bridge* was erected about the Beginning of the 13th Century, and to that time we muſt refer the firſt Erection of *Bridge-Gate*; but in 1726, the old Structure being much damag-

ed

ed by Fire, it was ſoon after repaired, and in 1728, finiſhed as it now appears.—This ſhort Account of the Antiquities of *London* may hereafter be reſumed, if the imperfect Specimen here offered has the good Fortune to be favourably received.

FINIS

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